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## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20505

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

2 APR 1968

The Honorable Ramsey Clark  
The Attorney General  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Ramsey,

You are well aware of the great concern which exists at the highest levels of this Government with regard to the proliferation of nuclear weapons. With the expanding use of nuclear energy for power and the greater civilian involvement with nuclear material there is a real danger that clandestine traffic in these materials might occur.

In this connection I would like to bring the following matter to your attention. The Nuclear Materials and Equipment Corporation of Apollo, Pennsylvania, is one of the principal processors of nuclear materials such as plutonium and U 235 which if diverted could be used for weapons. Although NUMEC made periodic physical inventories and the United States Atomic Energy Commission performed a number of accountability surveys, a significant quantity of enriched U 235, possibly representing a cumulative loss over a period of years, could not be accounted for in the spring of 1965. These losses came to light in the closing out of a large contract. Because of the condition of NUMEC's records and the nature of the operation, the specific disposition of this material could not be identified. At that time the AEC reported that although it could not be stated with certainty that a diversion of this material had not taken place, no evidence had been found to support the possibility of diversion and that other information did exist to reduce such a possibility.

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It is critical for us to establish whether or not the Israelis now have the capability of fabricating nuclear weapons which might be employed in the Near East. Furthermore, introduction by Israel of such weapons into their arsenal would undoubtedly affect the Non-Proliferation Treaty which has been placed before the United Nations by the United States and the USSR.

Given the aforementioned circumstances, I urge that the Federal Bureau of Investigation be called upon to initiate a discreet intelligence investigation of an all source nature of Dr. Shapiro in order to establish the nature and extent of his relationship with the Government of Israel.

Sincerely,

*Rich*

Richard Helms



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